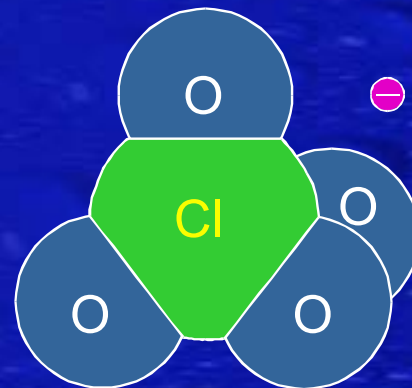


# Perchlorate by Ion Chromatographic Methods: *A Methods Development Status Report*

Department of Defense  
IDQTF-EDQW Round Table

October 23, 2003

Dallas, TX



# Presentation Outline

- ◆ Current Status of Method 314.0 using improved RFIC Instrumentation and Ultra II Suppressor
- ◆ Sample Pretreatment for Matrix Removal and Detection Limit Enhancement
- ◆ Automated Sample Preconcentration for Matrix Removal and Lowering Detection Limits
- ◆ Second Column Confirmation with the Cryptand A1 Column
- ◆ IC-MS Detection for Low Parts-per-Trillion Determinations

# Review of EPA Method 314.0 for Perchlorate

## Revision 1.0, November 1999

- ◆ Analytical method: ion chromatography with suppressed conductivity detection

- ◆ Key operating conditions

Column: IonPac® AG16, AS16, 4-mm

Eluent: 50 mM sodium hydroxide

Flow Rate: 1.5 mL/min

Suppressor: ASRS® ULTRA, external water mode

Sample Loop: 1,000 µL

- ◆ Method must deliver adequate column efficiency (peak area/height ratio – A/H) to allow quantification at the required MDL in a sample with high total dissolved solids (TDS)
- ◆ Must be able to quantify in a test matrix of chloride, carbonate, and sulfate at 600 mg/L each (TDS<sub>600</sub>)



# ICS-2000 Integrated RFIC System

- ◆ Integral eluent generation
- ◆ Dual-piston pump with optional vacuum degas
- ◆ Electrically actuated injection valve
- ◆ Column heater, (30–60 °C)
- ◆ Electrolytic suppressor control
- ◆ Thermally controlled conductivity detector ( $\pm 0.01$  °C)
- ◆ LCD touch-pad front panel

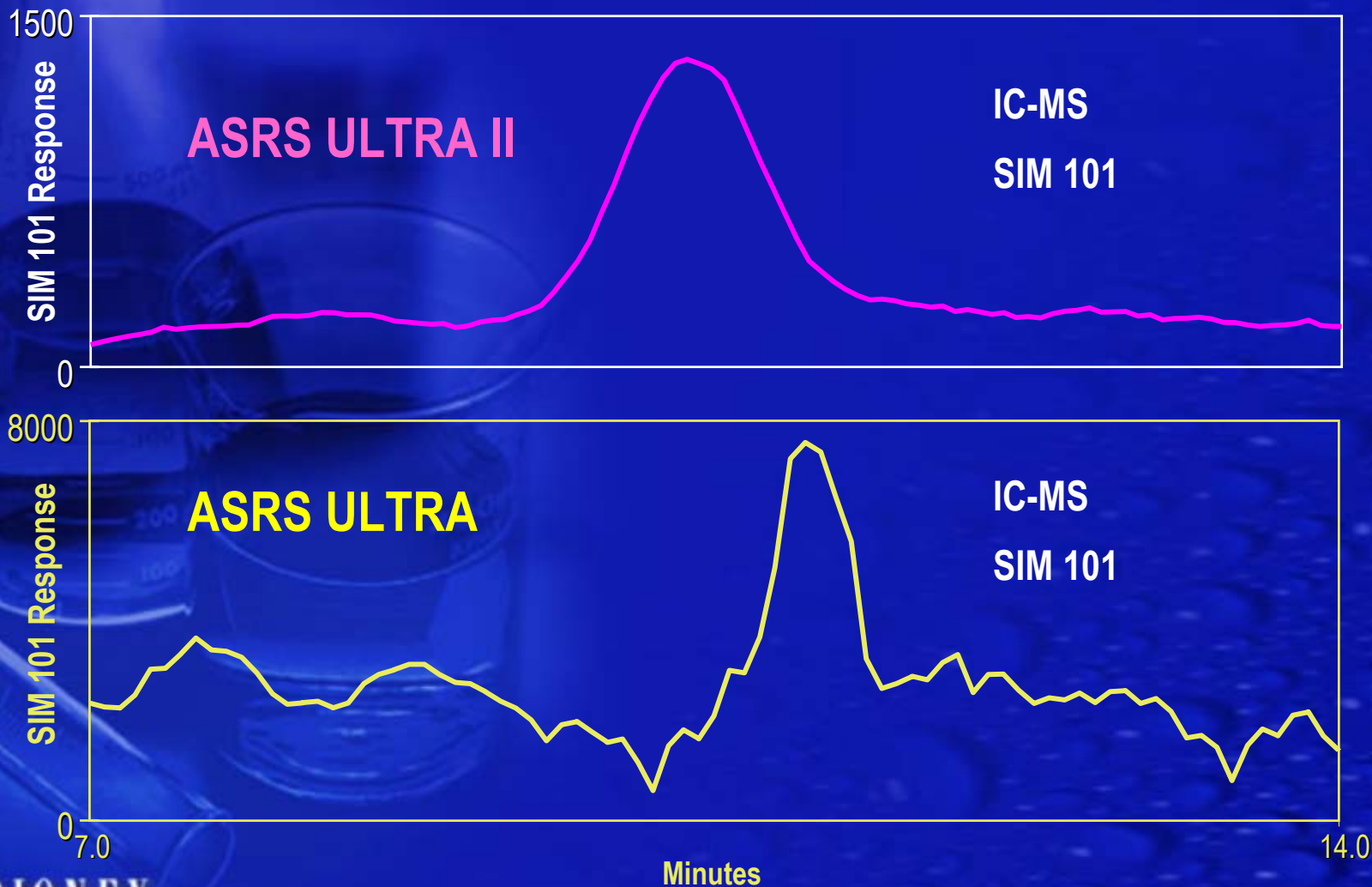


# SRS® ULTRA II Design Changes

SRS ULTRA II Design Change	Feature	Advantage	Benefit
Solvent cleaned screens and membranes	Less leachates	Lower background Lower noise Faster start-up	Increased sensitivity Better detection limits Better integration for early eluting anions Time savings
New proprietary gasket material	Less leachates	Lower background Lower noise Faster start-up	Increased sensitivity Better detection limits Better integration for early eluting anions Time savings
Screen capacity increased	Lower voltage (ASRS®)	Less prone to fouling	Uninterrupted operation

# ASRS® ULTRA and ULTRA II Comparison

## Perchlorate IC-MS Method



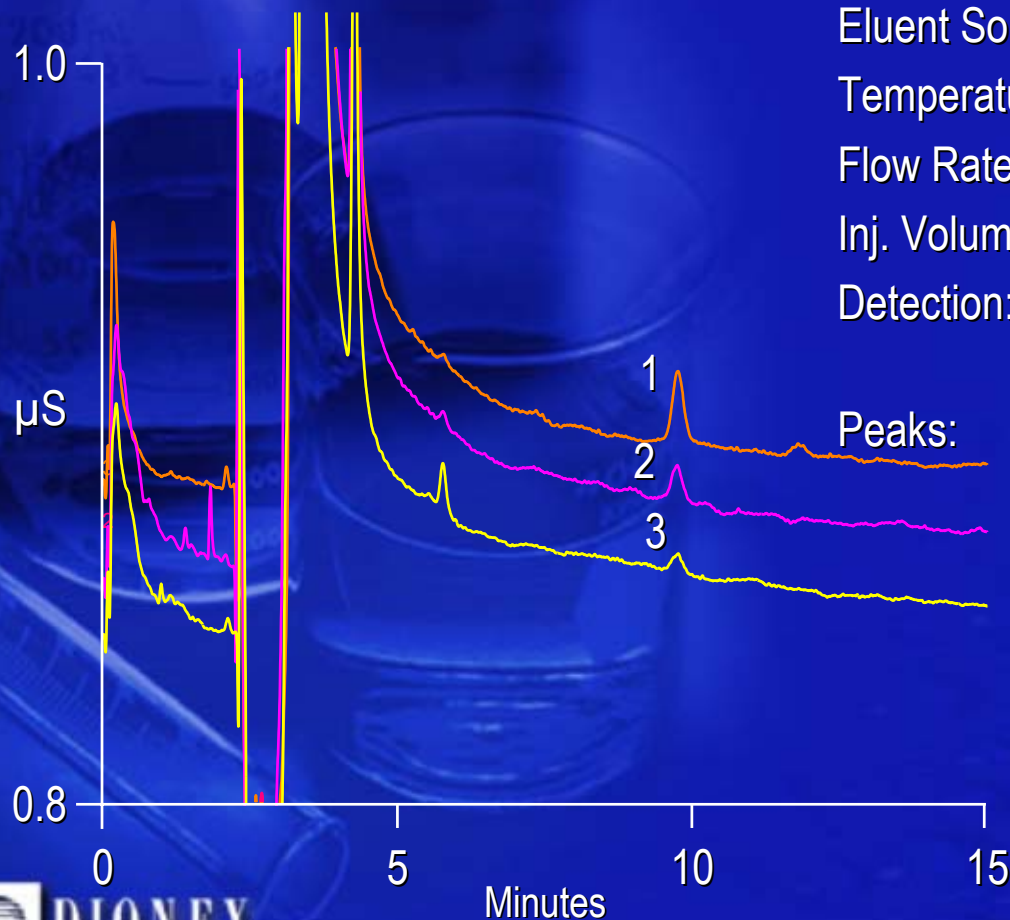


# **SRS<sup>®</sup> ULTRA II Performance Characteristics**

- ◆ **Fast start-up times**
  - **<2 hours for both 2- and 4-mm anion and cation applications upon first install**
  - **Day to day start-up is <5 min**
- ◆ **Hydroxide eluent applications typical noise in recycle mode**
  - **<1 nS/cm up to 40 mM NaOH**
  - **<2 nS/cm up to 100 mM NaOH**
  - **External water recommended for trace applications**
- ◆ **Low void volume improves efficiency for early-eluting peaks for anions**

# Trace-Level Perchlorate Using the ASRS<sup>®</sup> ULTRA II ICS-2000

Column: IonPac<sup>®</sup> AG16, AS16 4 mm  
Eluent: 65 mM KOH  
Eluent Source: ICS-2000 with EGC and CR-ATC  
Temperature: 30 °C  
Flow Rate: 1.2 mL/min  
Inj. Volume: 1000 µL  
Detection: ASRS ULTRA II,  
recycle mode





# EPA Method 314.0

Determination of 1 µg/L Perchlorate with Increasing Concentrations of Chloride, Sulfate, and Carbonate

Column: IonPac® AG16, AS16, 4 mm

Eluent: 65 mM KOH

Eluent Source: ICS-2000 EG with CR-ATC

Temperature: 30 °C

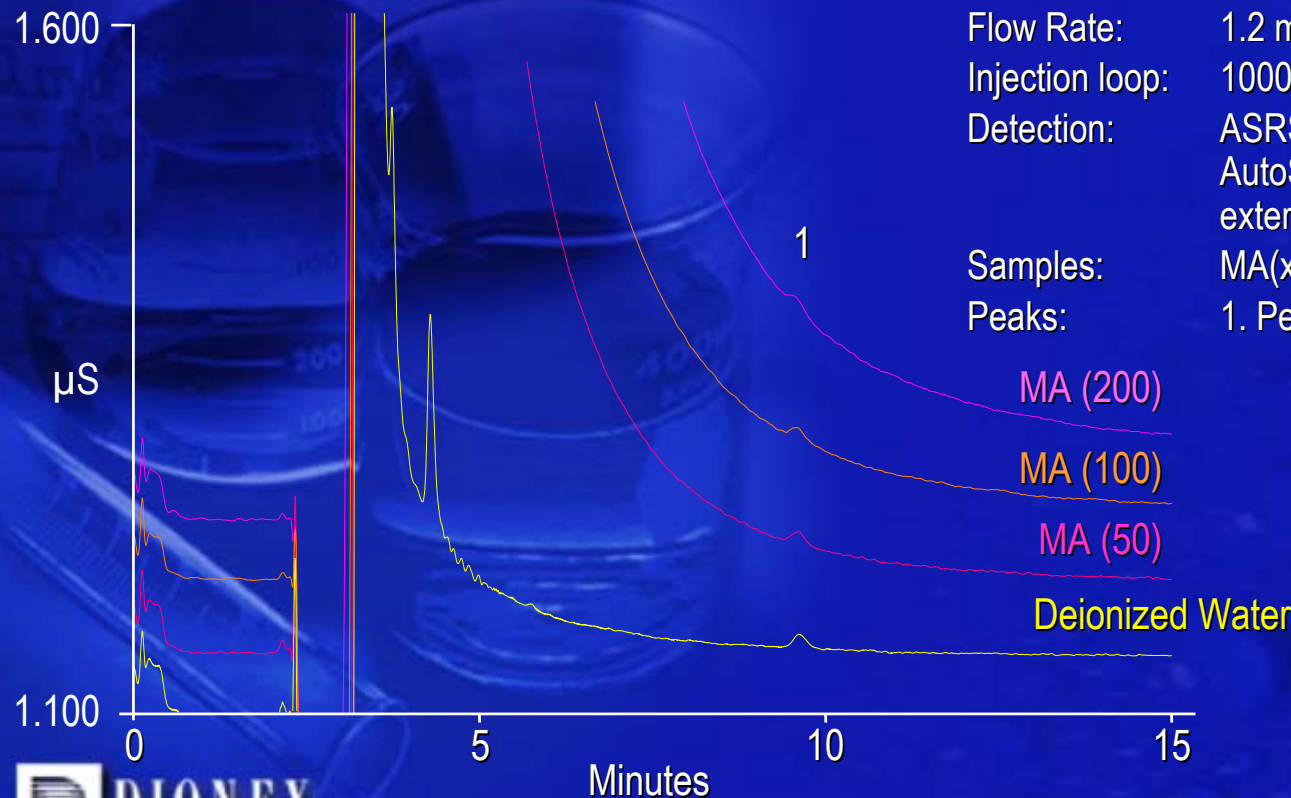
Flow Rate: 1.2 mL/min

Injection loop: 1000 µL

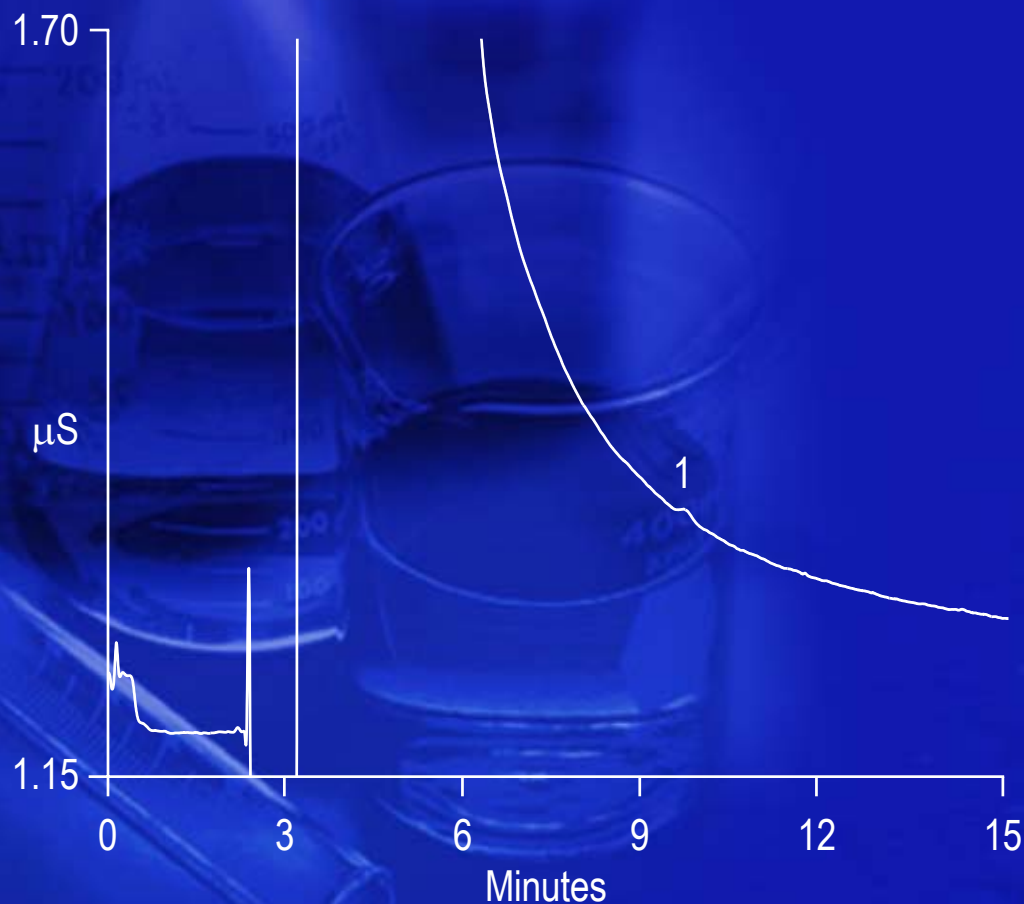
Detection: ASRS® ULTRA II,  
AutoSuppression®,  
external water mode, 193 mA

Samples: MA(x) = X mg/L each Cl<sup>-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>

Peaks: 1. Perchlorate 1 µg/L



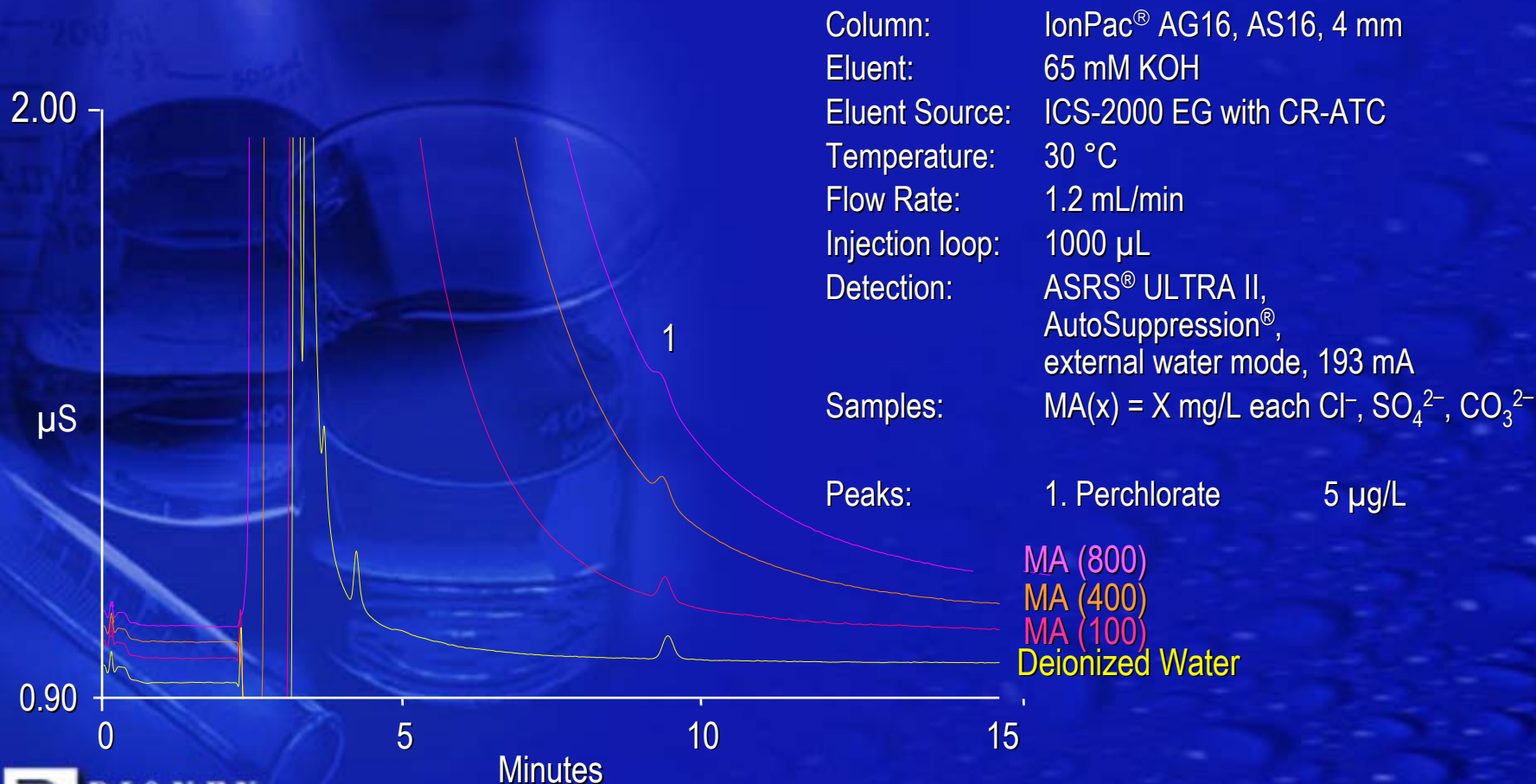
# Determination of 0.5 µg/L Perchlorate Spiked in Drinking Water



Instrument: ICS 2000 RFIC  
Columns: IonPac® AG16, AS16, 4 mm  
Eluent: 65 mM KOH  
Eluent Source: ICS-2000 with CR-ATC  
Temperature: 30 °C  
Flow Rate: 1.2 mL/min  
Inj. Volume: 1000 µL  
Detection: ASRS® ULTRA II, external water mode  
Peaks: 1. Perchlorate 0.5 µg/L (ppb)

# EPA Method 314.0

## Determination of 5 µg/L Perchlorate with Increasing Concentrations of Chloride, Sulfate, and Carbonate





## MDLs for Perchlorate on an ICS-2000

Matrix	MDL Standard (µg/L)	Retention Time RSD (%)	Calculated MDL <sup>a</sup> (µg/L)
DI water	0.5	0.10	0.10
50 (CCS) <sup>b</sup>	0.5	0.20	0.10
100 (CCS)	0.5	0.05	0.13
200 (CCS)	1.0	0.27	0.24
400 (CCS)	2.0	0.07	0.18
600 (CCS)	5.0	0.07	0.24

<sup>a</sup> The MDLs were calculated as  $MDL = (t) \times (SD)$ ,  $n = 7$

<sup>b</sup> CCS indicates a mixed common anion solution of chloride, carbonate and sulfate (mg/L each)

# OnGuard® Sample Pretreatment Removes Common Matrix Anions

Sample

OnGuard II Ba



OnGuard II Ag



0.22  $\mu\text{m}$  Particle  
Filter

Removes AgCl colloids

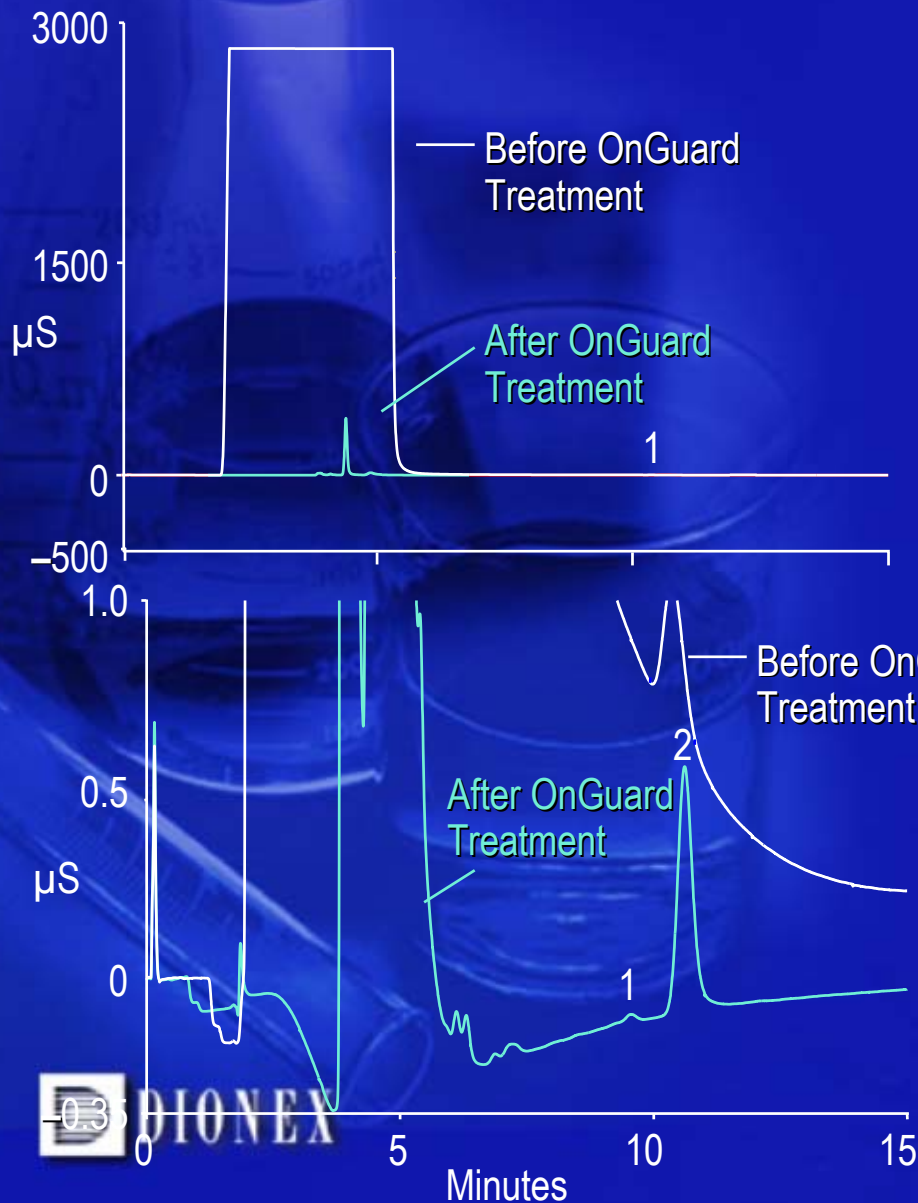
OnGuard II H



Sample Vial

R = Resin  
M = Metal Ions

# OnGuard® Matrix Elimination Improves Determination of Perchlorate in High-Ionic-Strength Water

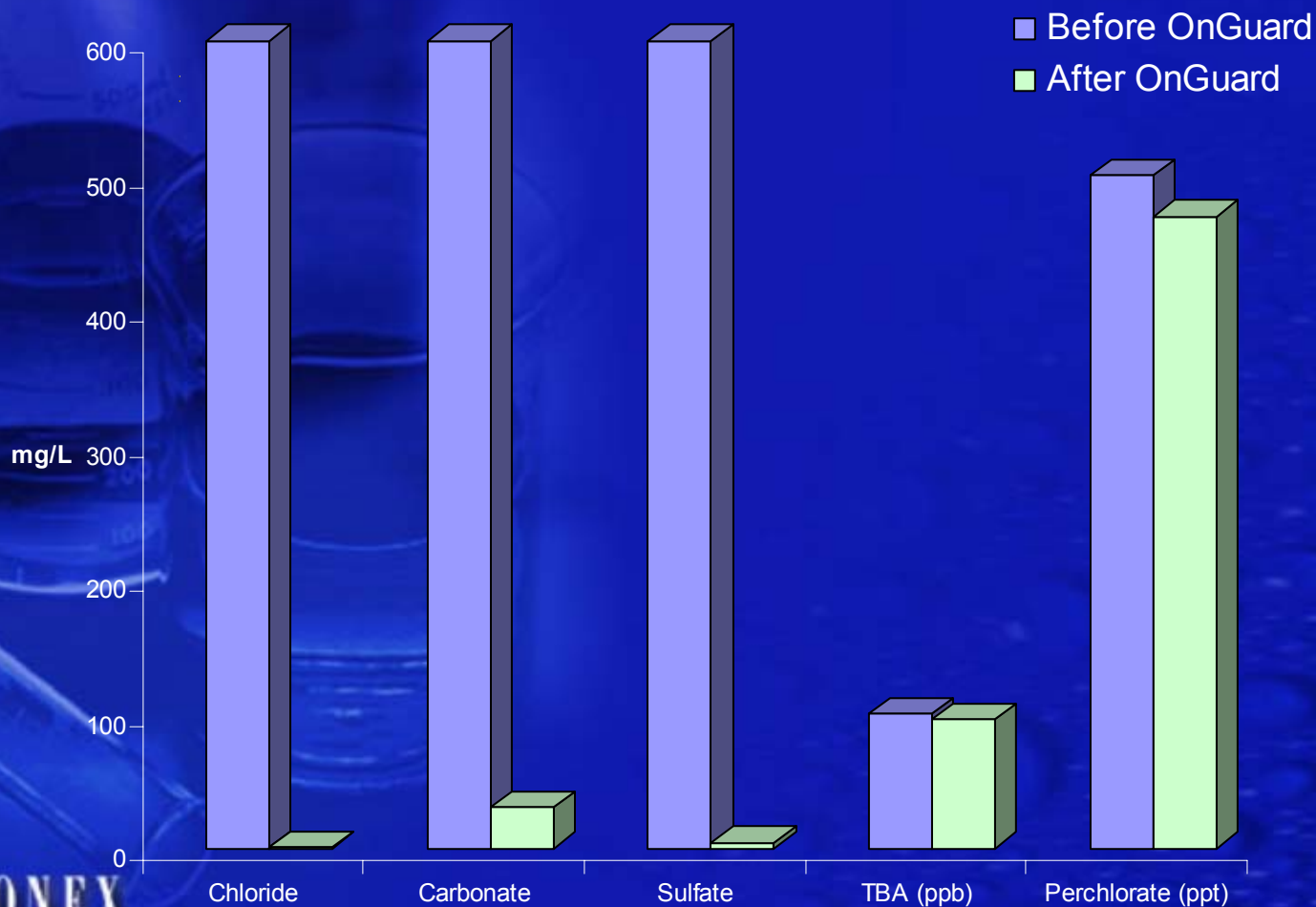


Column: IonPac® AG16, AS16, 2 mm  
 Eluent: 50 mM potassium hydroxide (EG50)  
 Flow Rate: 0.4 mL/min  
 Inj. Volume: 1000 µL  
 Temperature: 30 °C  
 Detection: Suppressed conductivity  
 Suppressor: AMMS® III, 2 mm, pressurized bottle mode

Peaks:	1. Perchlorate	0.5 µg/L (ppb)
	2. Tribromoacetate	100
Matrix:	Chloride	600 mg/L
	Carbonate	600
	Sulfate	600



# OnGuard® Matrix Elimination of Chloride, Sulfate, and Carbonate Anions



# Precision of IC Determination of Perchlorate in a High TDS Sample Matrix<sup>1</sup> Using OnGuard<sup>®</sup> Matrix Elimination

Sample <sup>(2)</sup>	Perchlorate Concentration (µg/L)
1	0.388
2	0.318
3	0.319
4	0.347
5	0.336
6	0.283
7	0.321
Mean	0.330
SD	0.032
MDL <sup>(3)</sup>	0.100

- 1) Sample matrix contained chloride, carbonate, and sulfate at 600 mg/L each
- 2) Each sample injected was treated with a different OnGuard cartridge set (Ba, Ag, filter, H)
- 3) MDL = method detection limit = (SD) x ( $t_s$ ) 99% for 1 mL injection where ( $t_s$ ) is for a 99% single-sided Students  $t$ -test for  $n = 7$  which is 3.14

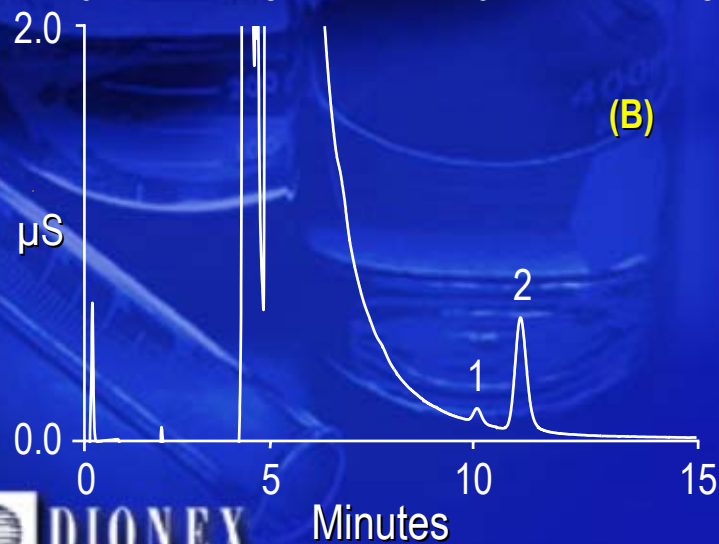
# OnGuard<sup>®</sup> Matrix Elimination Improves Determination of Perchlorate in Groundwater



Column: IonPac<sup>®</sup> AG16, AS16, 2 mm  
Eluent: 50 mM potassium hydroxide (EG50)  
Temperature: 30 °C  
Flow Rate: 0.4 mL/min  
Inj. Volume: 1000 μL  
Detection: Suppressed conductivity  
Suppressor: AMMS<sup>®</sup> III, 2 mm, pressurized bottle mode  
Samples: Domestic well water

(A) No pretreatment

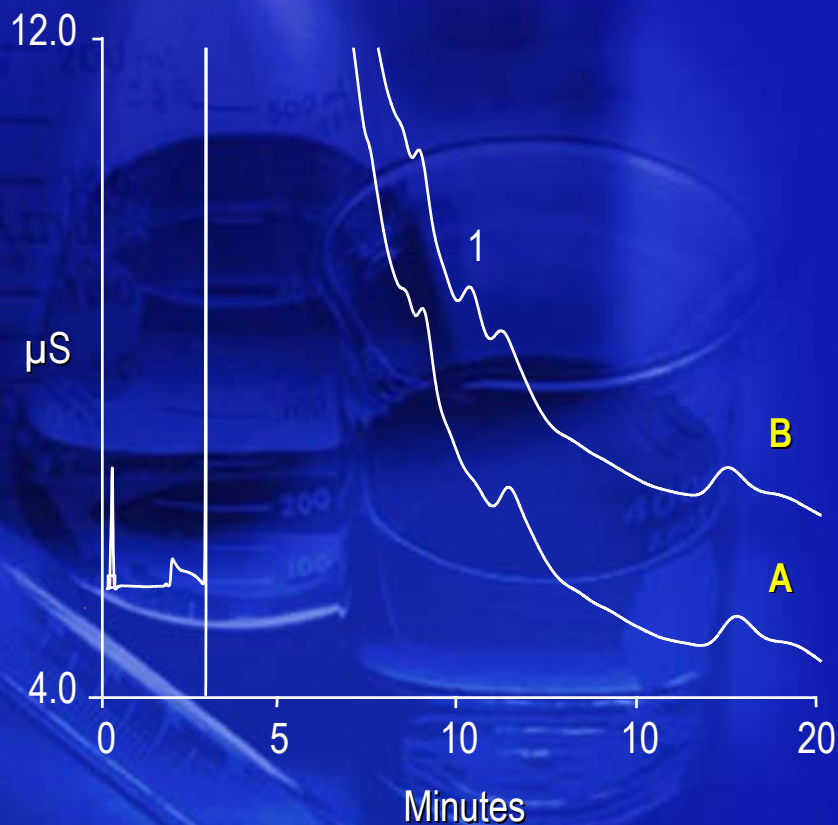
(B) Pretreated with OnGuard Ba, Ag, H



Peaks:	A	B	
1. Perchlorate	1.74	2.13	μg/L
2. Tribromoacetate	—	86	



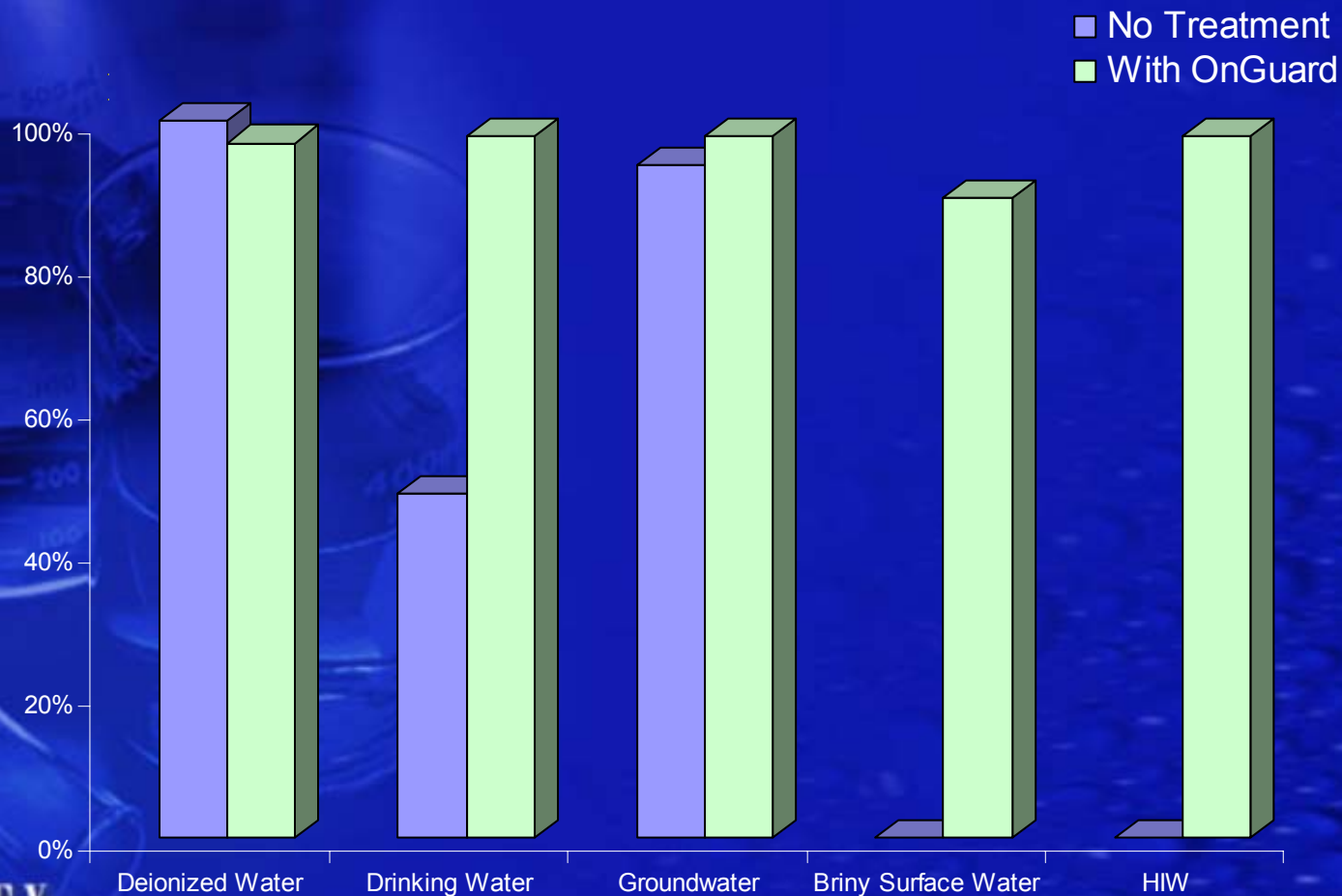
# OnGuard® Matrix Elimination Improves Recovery of Perchlorate Spike from Briny Surface Water



Column: IonPac® AG16, AS16, 2 mm  
Eluent: 65 mM potassium hydroxide (EG50)  
Temperature: 30 °C  
Flow Rate: 0.4 mL/min  
Inj. Volume: 5 mL preconcentrated on TAC-ULPI  
Detection: Suppressed conductivity  
Suppressor: AMMS® III (2 mm) pressurized bottle mode  
Sample: Salton Sea surface water diluted 2x and pretreated with OnGuard Ba, Ag, H  
(A) Matrix blank  
(B) Matrix spiked with 5 μg/L perchlorate

Peaks:		A	B	
1. Perchlorate		n.d.	4.47	μg/L (ppb)

# OnGuard® Matrix Elimination Improves Recovery of Perchlorate Spiked Into Environmental Waters



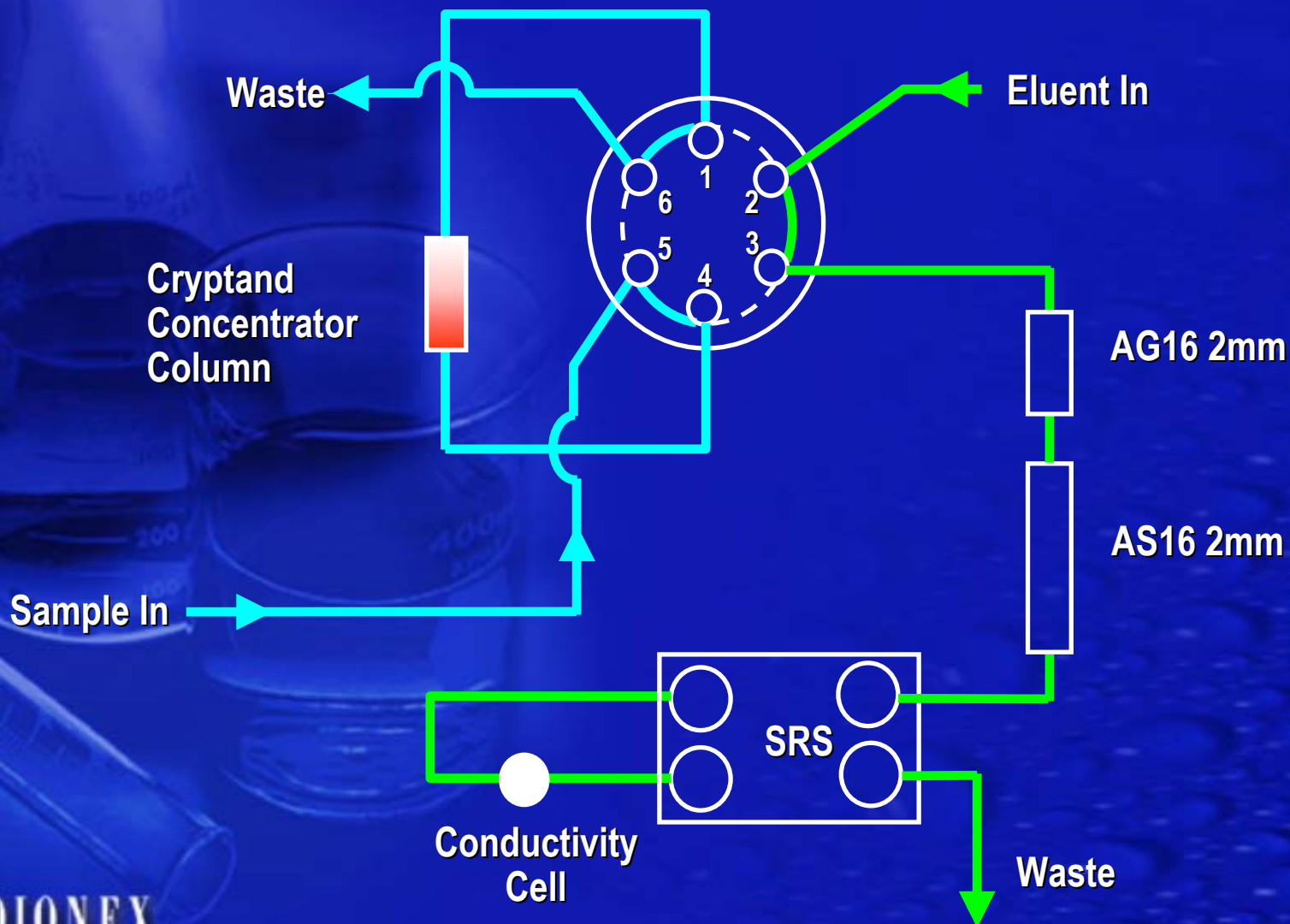
# Conditions for Perchlorate Determination Using On-Line Sample Concentrator Column Technique

- ◆ Method: Ion chromatography with chemically suppressed conductivity detection
- ◆ Conditions:
  - Column: IonPac® AG16, AS16, 2-mm set
  - Eluent: Sodium hydroxide (EG50)
  - Flow rate: 0.25 mL/min
  - Suppressor: ASRS ULTRA® II, recycle mode
- ◆ Sample Loop: Replace with Cryptand concentrator column.
- ◆ Program: Apply 5-mL of sample to concentrator column.  
Rinse with 1 mL of 10 mM sodium hydroxide.  
Elute with 0.5 mM sodium hydroxide for 12 min.  
Separate with 60 mM sodium hydroxide.



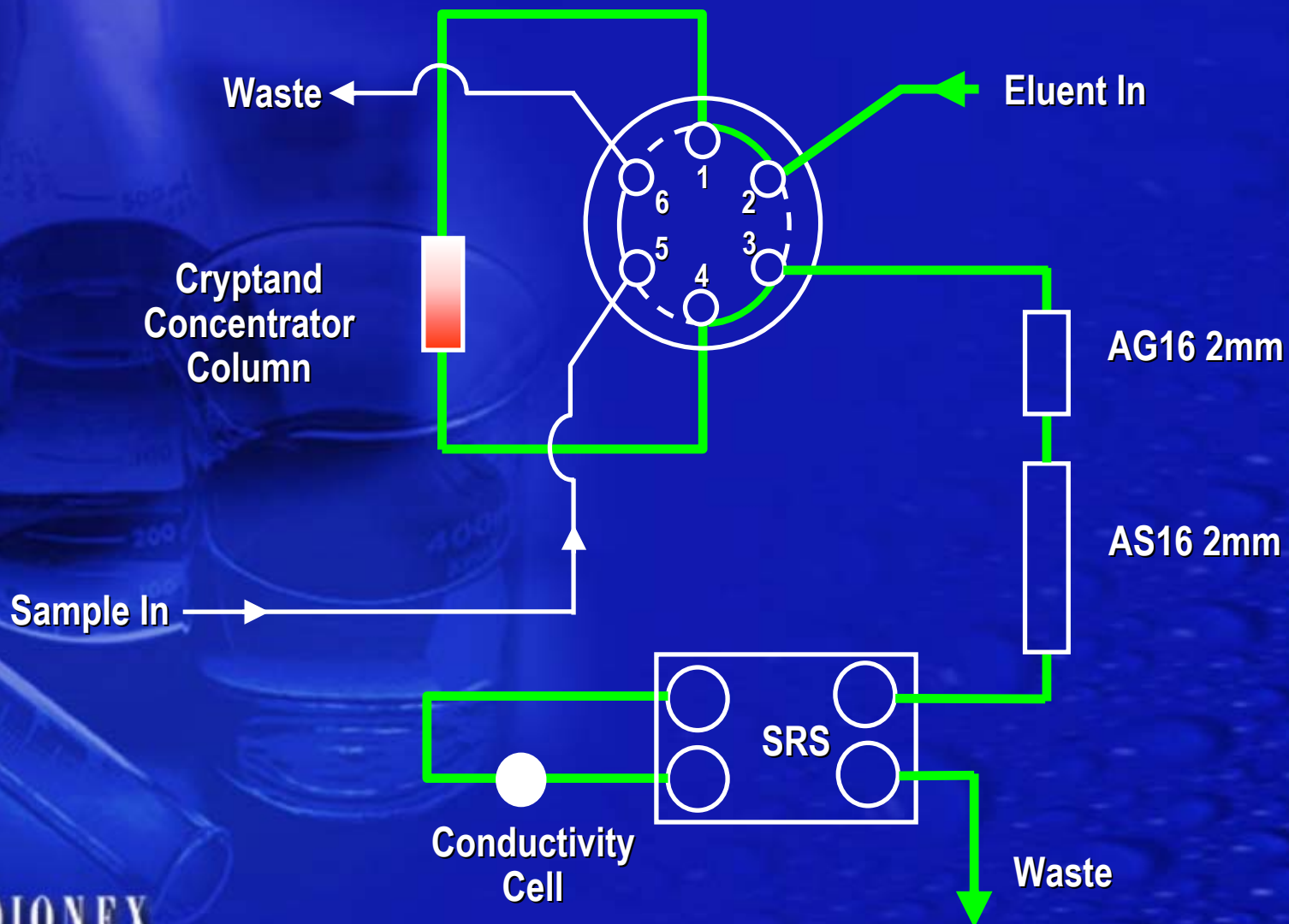
# On-line Sample Sample Concentration Technique

## Loading the Concentrator Column

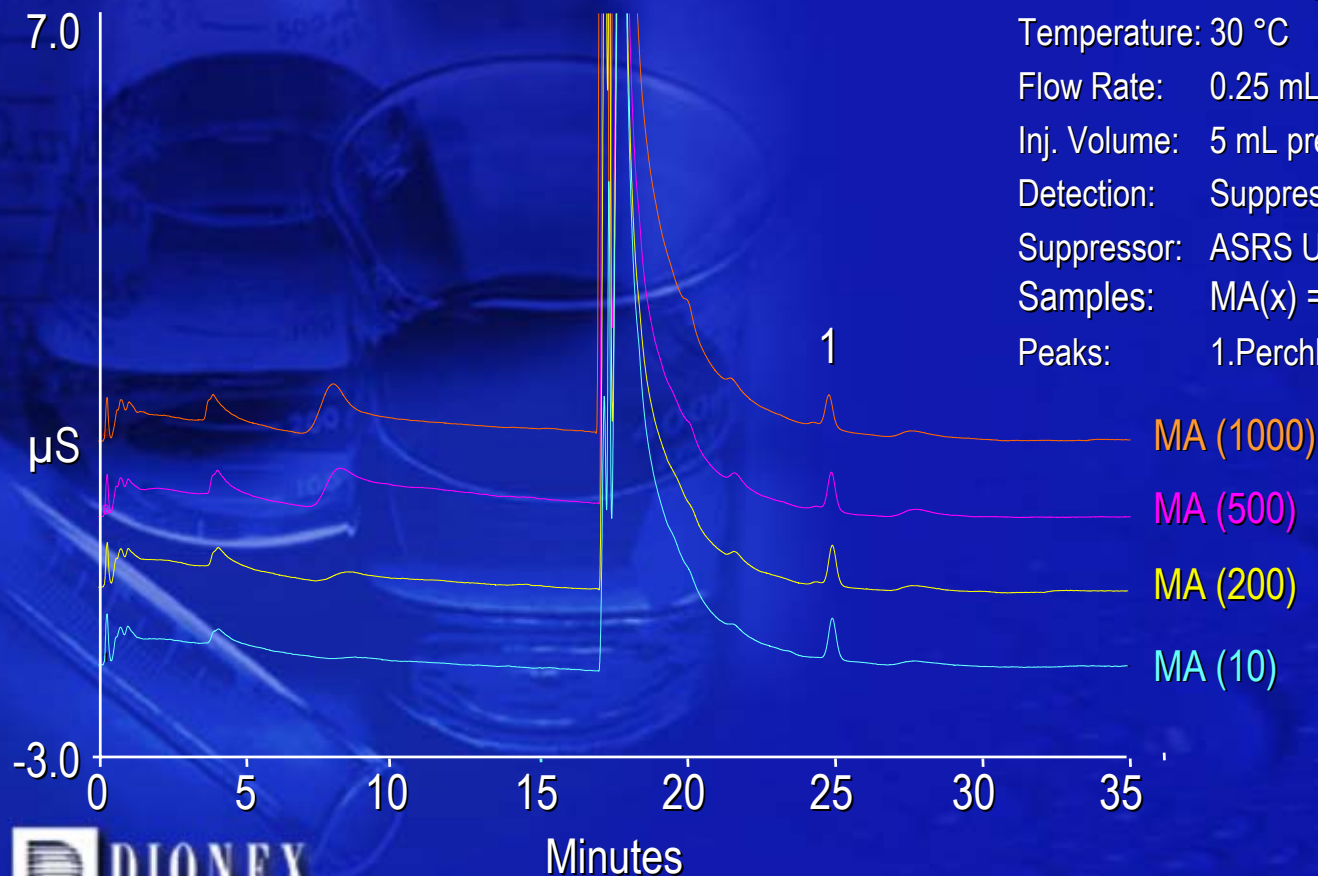


# On-Line Sample Concentration Technique

## Separating the Concentrated Ions



# Recovery of Perchlorate Spike From High-Ionic-Strength Water Matrices

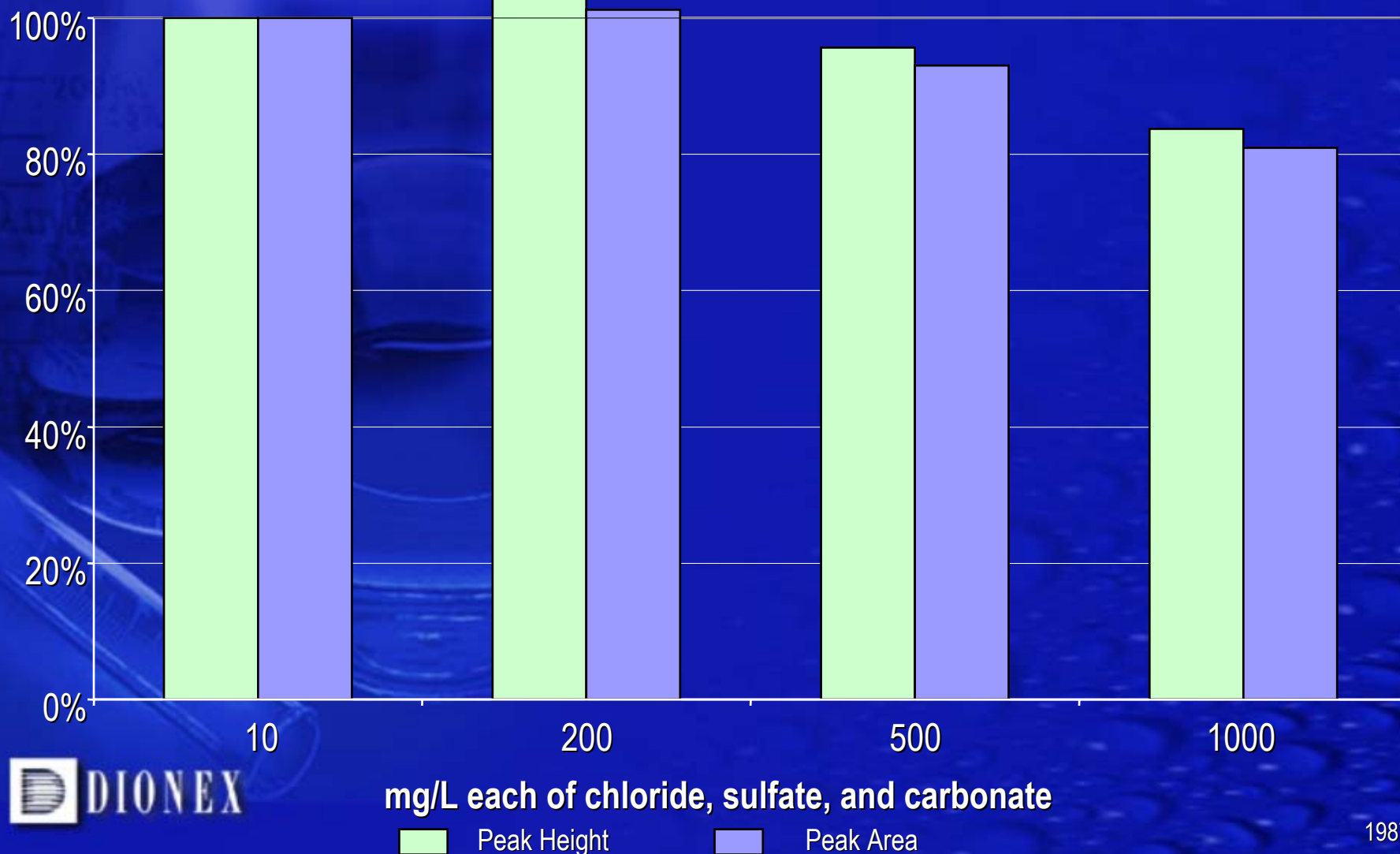


Column: IonPac® AG16, AS16, 2 mm  
Eluent: 60 mM potassium hydroxide (EG50)  
Temperature: 30 °C  
Flow Rate: 0.25 mL/min  
Inj. Volume: 5 mL preconcentrated on 09-42C 4 x 35 mm  
Detection: Suppressed conductivity  
Suppressor: ASRS ULTRA® II 2 mm, recycle mode  
Samples: MA(x) = X mg/L each  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$   
Peaks: 1. Perchlorate 2 µg/L



# Recovery of 2 ppb Perchlorate in HIW Matrices

Cryptand 09-42C 4 x 35 mm  
5 mL concentrated with 1-mL of 10 mM NaOH rinse



# Summary

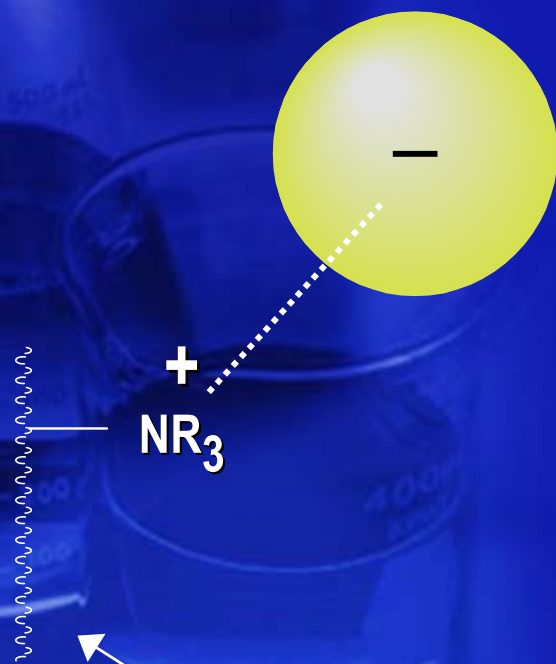
- ◆ Benefits of on-line sample concentration:
  - Up to 5x more perchlorate injected onto 2-mm AS16
  - Elution from Cryptand concentrator column with low-concentration eluent refocuses perchlorate onto AS16
  - Matrix ions significantly reduced in concentration allowing better sensitivity

Future work:

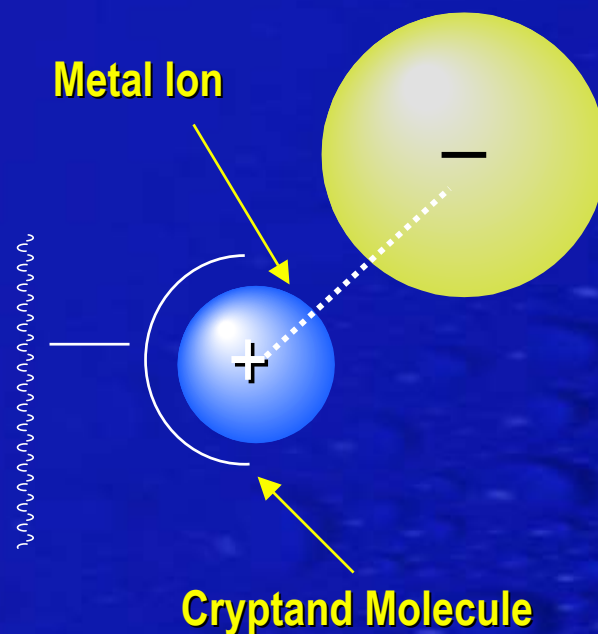
- Measure linearity of perchlorate peak area vs. concentration
- Find a suitable surrogate/internal standard

# Comparison of a Classical IC Column and an IonPac<sup>®</sup> Cryptand Column

Classical Anion Exchange



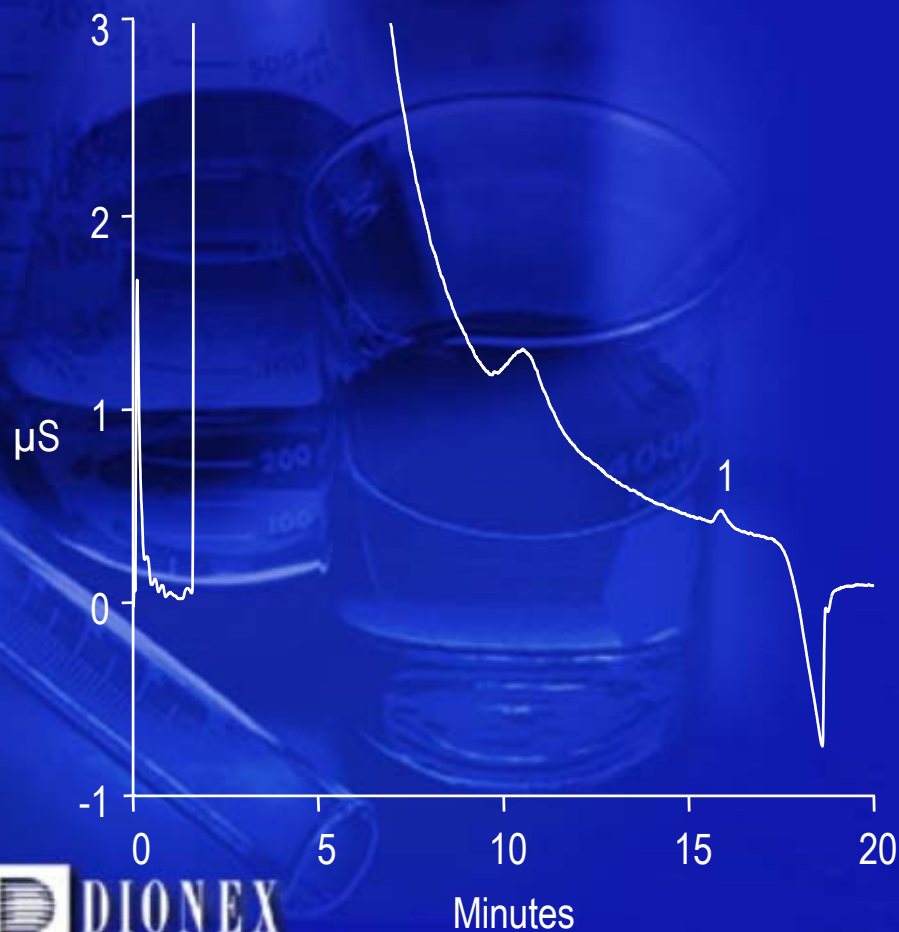
Anion Exchange on Metal Ion Complexed by Cryptand



Solid Support



# Determination of Perchlorate in High TDS Samples Using a Cryptand Column



Column: IonPac® Cryptand A1, 5 µm, 3 x 150 mm  
Eluent: 35 mM NaOH, step to 35 mM LiOH at 5 min., step back to 35 mM NaOH at 13 min.

Flow Rate: 0.5 mL/min  
Inj. Volume: 1 mL  
Temperature: 35 °C  
Detection: Suppressed conductivity  
ASRS® ULTRA, 2 mm, external water mode with ATC (4 x 35 mm)

Peaks: 1. Perchlorate 4 µg/L (ppb)

Sample: DI Water with:  
Chloride 800 mg/L  
Carbonate 1000  
Sulfate 1200

## Precision of Perchlorate Determination in a High TDS Sample Using a Cryptand Column

Injection	Perchlorate Concentration $\mu\text{g/L}$
1	1.81
2	1.94
3	2.32
4	1.88
5	2.16
6	2.06
7	1.83
Mean	2.00
SD	0.19
MDL	0.60
RSD	9.5%

Sample – DI water (1 mL injected) with:

Chloride	400	mg/L
Carbonate	600	mg/L
Sulfate	500	mg/L
Perchlorate	2	$\mu\text{g/L}$

# RFIC-MS for Perchlorate

## Benefits of Combining Suppressed IC with MS



ICS-2500



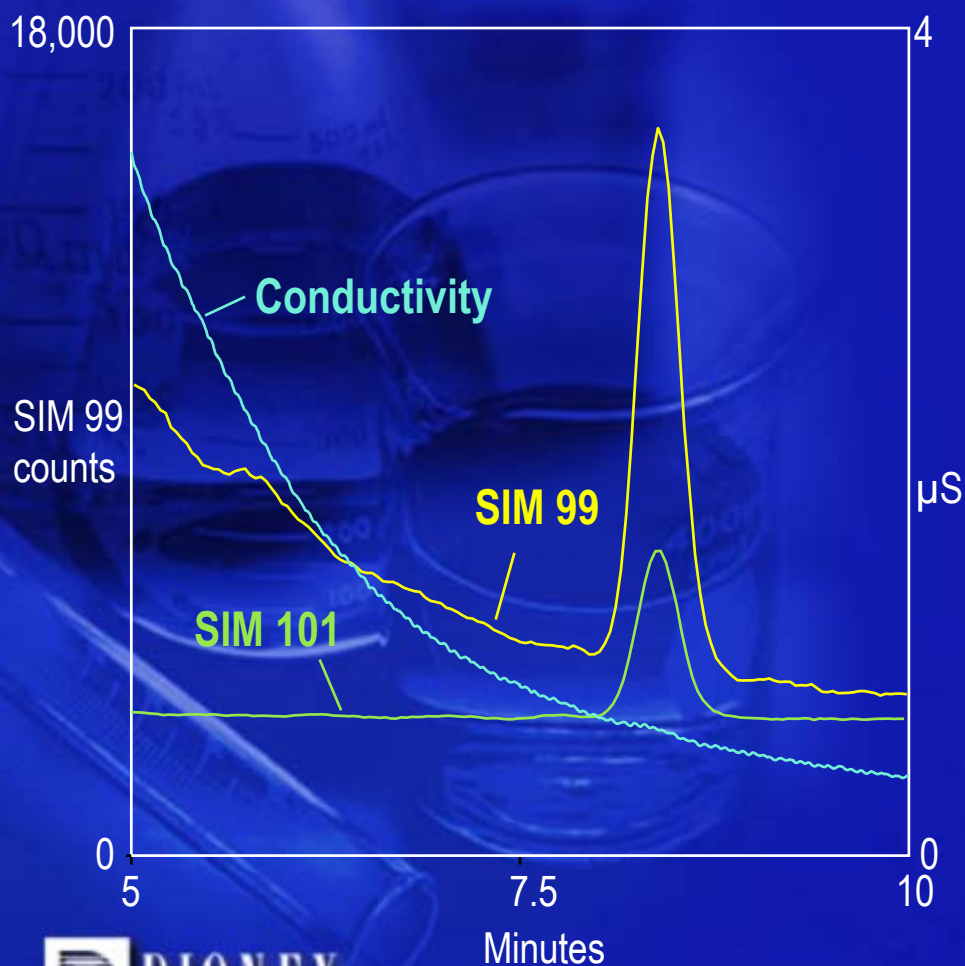
MSQ™

*MSQ is a trademark of Thermo Electron Corp.*

- ◆ Separate ionic analytes using standard IC conditions
- ◆ Suppressor permits use of high-ionic-strength eluents to get the benefits of high-capacity columns
- ◆ Detect and identify analytes with high specificity
  - Avoid coeluting interferences to ensure accurate identification
  - Avoid background interferences to ensure highest analyte sensitivity
  - Identify analytes by mass and isotope ratios for added confirmation
- ◆ Identify unknowns



# RFIC-MD-MS of Perchlorate in California Groundwater

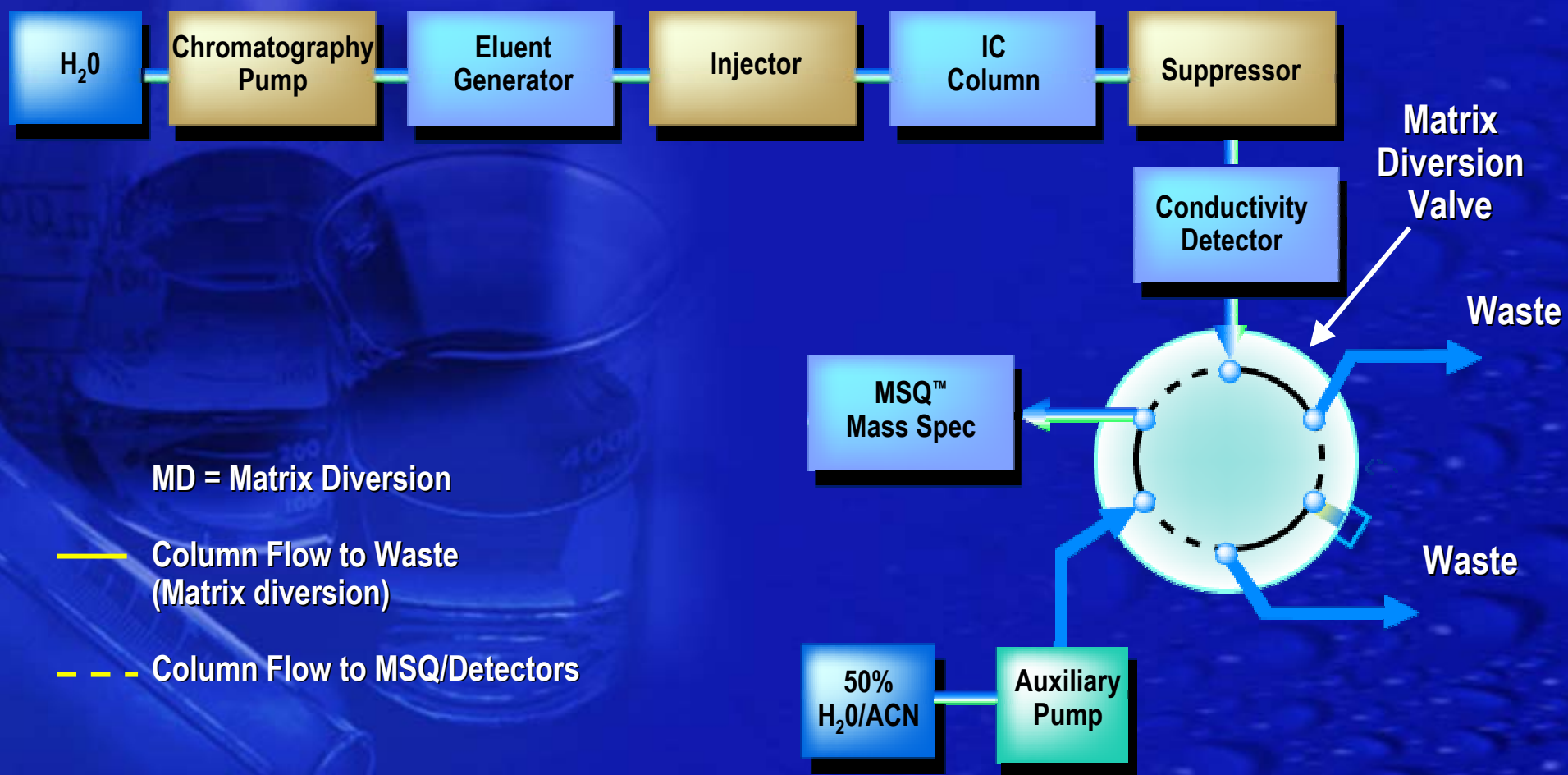


Column: IonPac® AG16, AS16 (2-mm)  
Suppressor: ASRS® ULTRA, 2 mm  
Eluent: 65 mM KOH (EG40)  
Eluent source: EGC-KOH with CR-ATC  
Flow Rate: 0.30 mL/min  
Inj. Volume: 250  $\mu\text{L}$   
Detection:  
1. Conductivity  
2. MS, SIM 99,  $^{35}\text{ClO}_4^-$   
3. MS, SIM 101,  $^{37}\text{ClO}_4^-$   
MS Conditions: -ESI, 70 V, 350 °C  
Sample: Groundwater diluted 1/10  
Peak: Perchlorate ~ 7–8  $\mu\text{g/L}$

# IC-MS Method Performance Enhancement Developments

- ◆ **Matrix Diversion:** *diverting the high concentration matrix ions, such as chloride, carbonate and sulfate, away from the MS using valve switching while they are eluting from the ion exchange column and then directing the column effluent to the MS while perchlorate elutes.*
- ◆ **Solvent Wash:** *rinsing the source cone with a solvent while the matrix ions are being diverted away from the MS; this provides continuous cleaning of the entrance orifice to the MS and enhances method performance*

# RFIC-MD-MS for Perchlorate

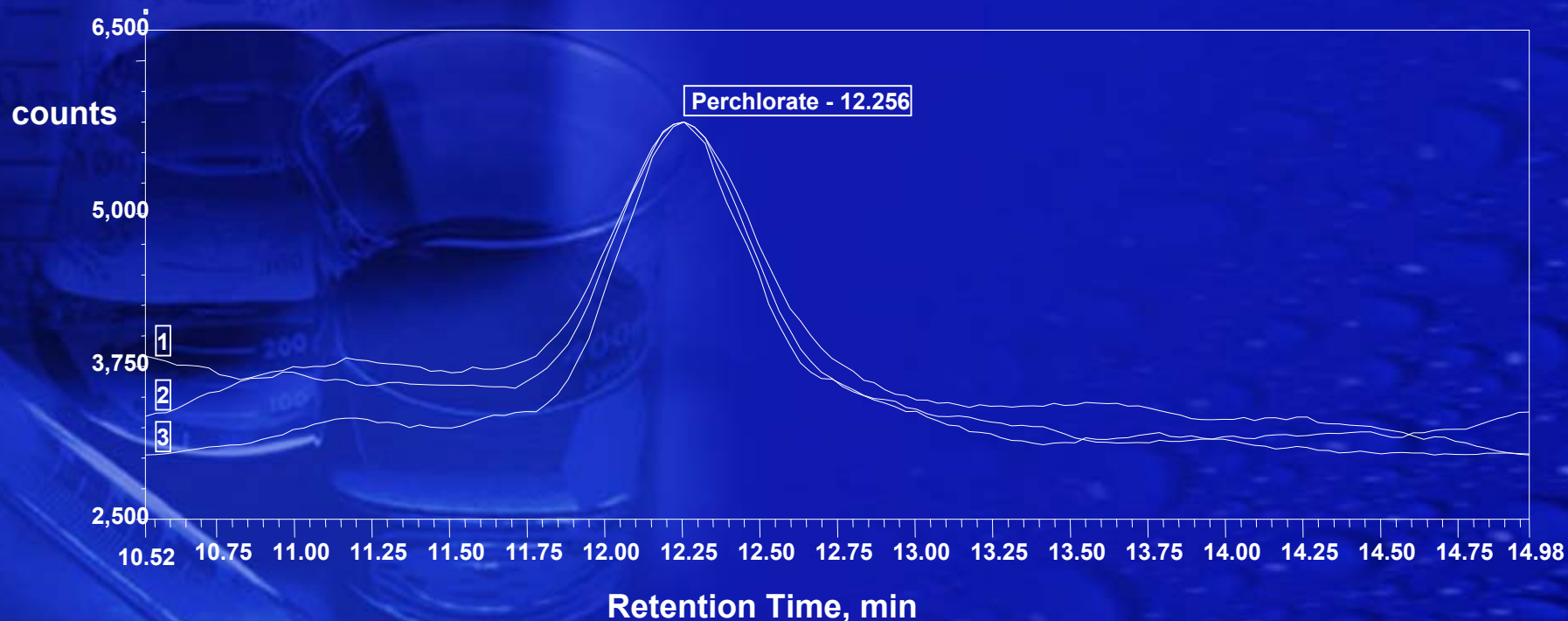




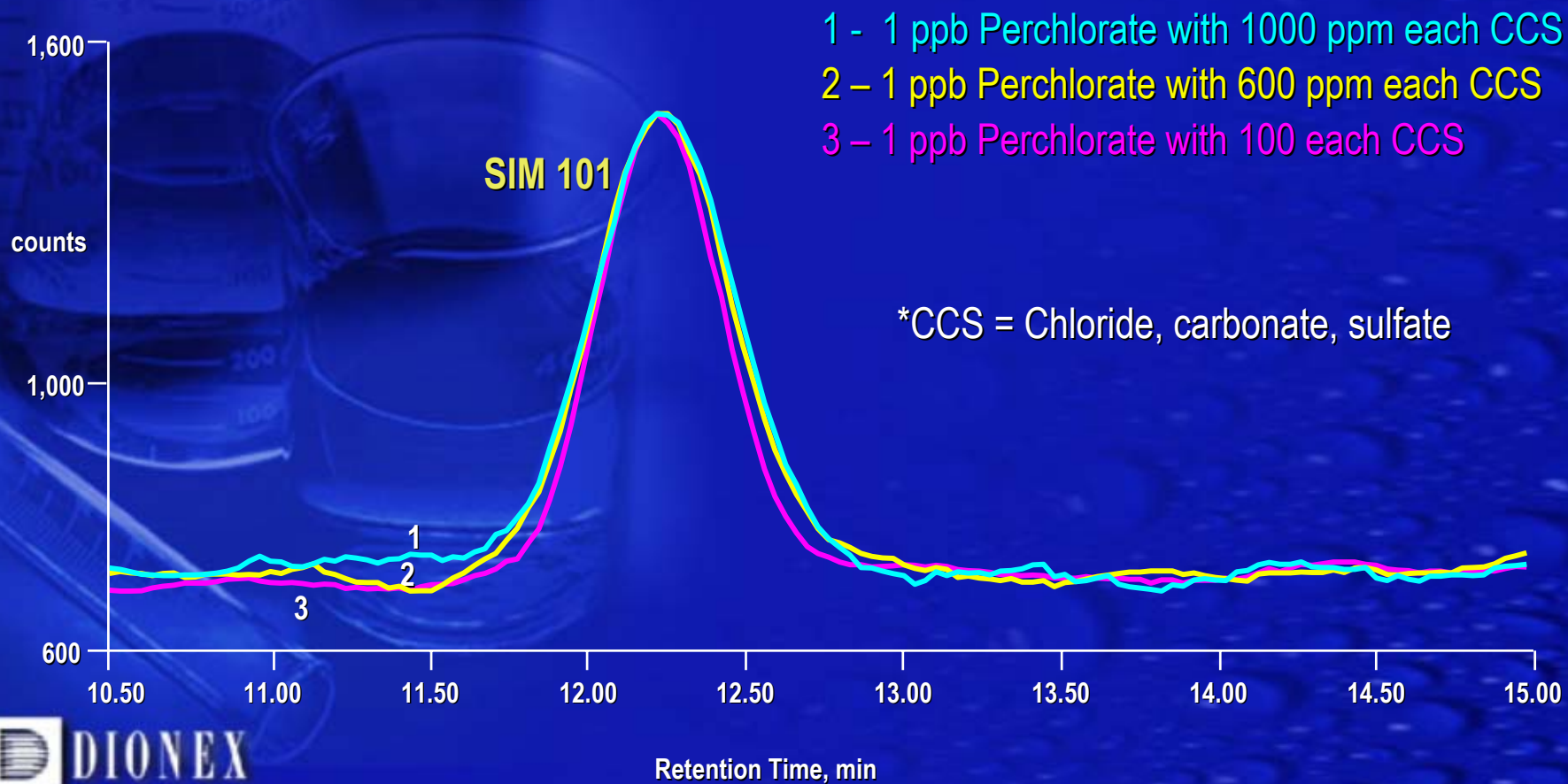
# SIM 99 MS Response

## Solvent Wash ME-IC-MS with 50% ACN

- 1 - 1 ppb Perchlorate with 1000 each CCS
- 2 - 1 ppb Perchlorate with 600 each CCS
- 3 - 1 ppb Perchlorate with 100 each CCS



# Low-Level Perchlorate Analysis RFIC-MD-MS with 50% ACN Solvent Wash



# Benefits of Matrix Diversion for the Analysis of Perchlorate by RFIC-MS

- ◆ Removal of early-eluting matrix ions
- ◆ High recovery regardless of matrix
- ◆ Isotopic chlorine ratio confirms perchlorate identification
- ◆ No prescreening of samples
- ◆ Eliminates off-line sample pretreatment (materials and labor)



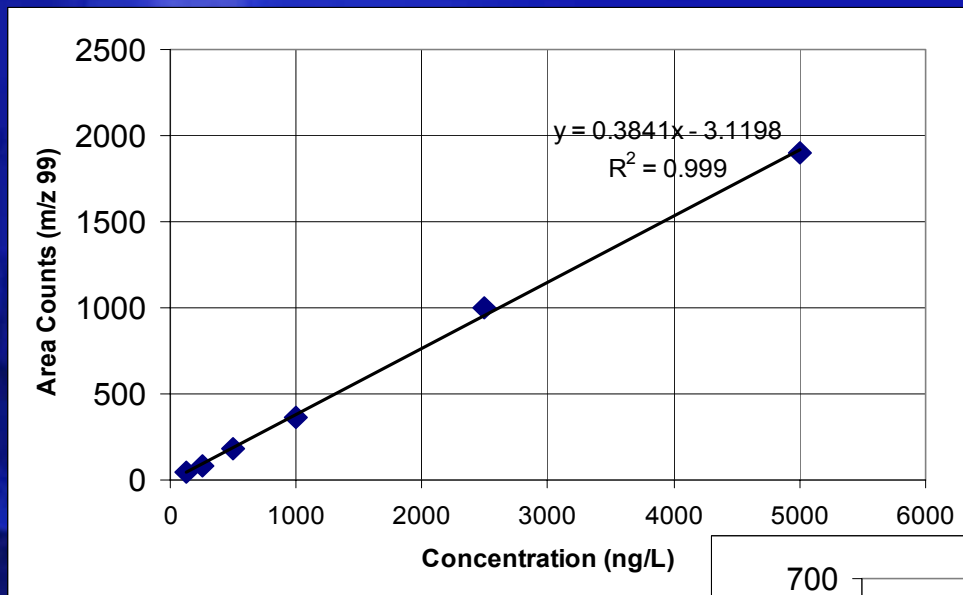
# Precision and MDL Perchlorate in a High TDS Sample Matrix

RFIC-OnGuard <sup>2,4</sup> (1 mL inj.)		RFIC-MD-MS <sup>1</sup> (250 µL inj.)	
Injections	Concentration (µg/L)	Injections	Concentration (µg/L)
1	0.388	1	0.232
2	0.318	2	0.230
3	0.319	3	0.254
4	0.347	4	0.254
5	0.336	5	0.259
6	0.283	6	0.284
7	0.321	7	0.236
Mean	0.330	Mean	0.250
SD	0.032	SD	0.019
MDL <sup>3</sup>	0.100	MDL <sup>3</sup>	0.06

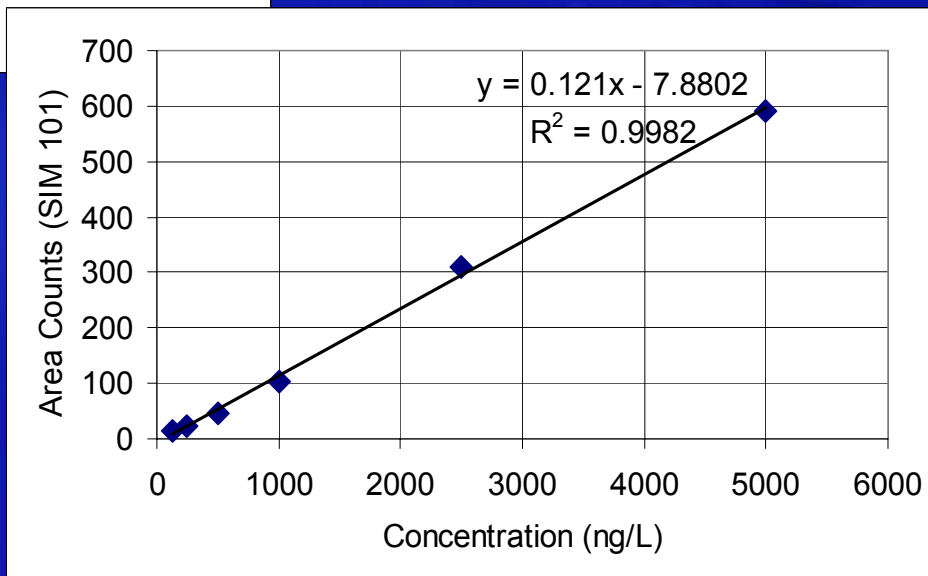
- 1 Sample matrix: 100 mg/L chloride, 300 mg/L carbonate, 400 mg/L sulfate
- 2 Sample matrix contained chloride, carbonate and sulfate at 600 mg/L each
- 3 MDL = method detection limit = (SD) + ( $t_s$ ) 99% where ( $t_s$ ) is a 99% single-sided Students  $t$  test for  $n = 7$  which is 3.14
- 4 Each sample injected was treated with a different OnGuard cartridge set (Ba, Ag, filter, H)

# Perchlorate Calibration Curves

## Drinking Water Matrix with IC-MD-MS



Mass 99  
Calibration



Mass 101  
Calibration

# Performance Enhancements Summary

## Solvent Wash MD-IC-MS versus ME-IC-MS

- ◆ Water Wash MD-IC-MS MDL: 50-80 ppt
- ◆ Water as a Wash Solvent results in about a 10% absolute improvement in area count stability
- ◆ ACN Solvent Wash MD-IC-MS MDL: 30-50 ppt
- ◆ 50% Acetonitrile as a Wash Solvent improves detection limits about 25%, day-to-day reproducibility an additional 10% in high ionic strength matrices, recovery up to 100% depending on background conductivity



# IC-MS/MS Collaborative Study

## *Preliminary Data*

### ◆ Instrumentation:

- DX-600 Ion Chromatograph with AS16 column and Ultra II suppressor
- Micromass Quattro Ultima Tandem MS with collision cell monitoring the m/z 99 to 83 and 101 to 85 transitions
- 83 m/z used for quantitation

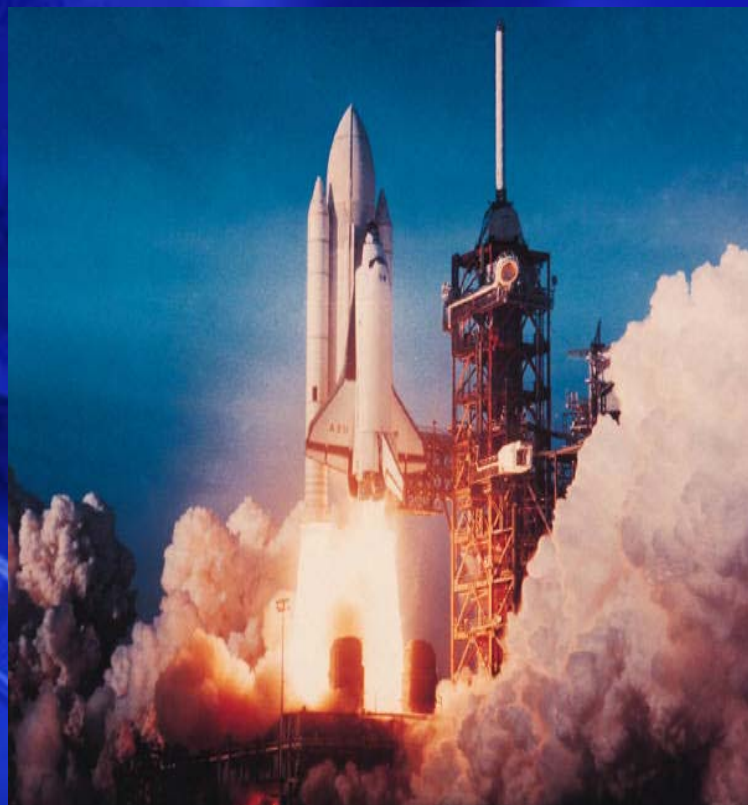
### ◆ Calibration Range: 5 – 100 ng/L in reagent water

### ◆ MDL determination at 2 ng/L (ppt) results in an MDL of ~ 1ng/L

### ◆ Perchlorate estimated quantitation limit in ground water matrices at ~5-10 ng/L

## Summary

# *Determination of Perchlorate in Drinking Water Using Ion Chromatography*



- ◆ 0.5 – 1.0  $\mu\text{g/L}$  with Suppressed Conductivity
- ◆ <100 ng/L with Standard Suppressed IC-MS
- ◆ <50 ng/L with Suppressed Solvent Wash ME-IC-MS
- ◆ <5 ng/L with Suppressed IC-MS/MS
- ◆ IC-MS Delivers Superior Sensitivity and Selectivity

# Acknowledgements

- ◆ Chris Pohl: separator and concentrator column technology
- ◆ Andy Woodruff and Ed Kaiser: Cryptand column applications
- ◆ Kannan Srinivasan: suppressor and concentrator column technology
- ◆ Jeff Rohrer and Dave Thomas: concentrator column application
- ◆ Brian DeBorba: ICS 2000 MCT applications
- ◆ Rosanne Slingsby: IC-MS method development
- ◆ Larry Penfold and Mark Dymerski (STL): IC-MS/MS methods
- ◆ Andy Eaton and Ali Haghani (MWH): IC method development
- ◆ EPA-OGWDW/TSC: Dave Munch, Herb Wagner, Elizabeth Hedrick